

April 12, 2012

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Communication MM Docket Nos. 00-168 and 00-44

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 10, 2012, Gordon Smith and the undersigned of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) met with Chairman Genachowski, Sherrese Smith, William Lake and Zachary Katz of the Federal Communications Commission to discuss NAB's position regarding on-line public files. The focus of this meeting was the political file portion of the public file.

NAB reiterated its position that the Commission should not reverse its 2007 decision to exempt broadcast political files from any requirement to place the larger public files of broadcast television stations in an on-line database to be housed at the FCC. While recognizing the Chairman's goal of increasing the transparency of the public files, the NAB parties pointed out that broadcasters are concerned about the potential misuse of the political file to put television broadcasters at a disadvantage in the highly competitive commercial video marketplace. We further noted that the statutory requirements for political files require only that the information be available at the station and that the statute contemplates that the Federal Elections Commission should be the on-line locus for election information. NAB pointed out that requiring broadcaster political files to be placed on-line at the FCC would necessarily have implications for federal elections.

Finally, the parties also discussed whether there could be an approach under which broadcasters would retain full political files as they currently do at the stations, but place information without specific individual rates in the FCC database. In a follow-up discussion between Jane Mago and William Lake on April 11, Ms. Mago suggested that one way to accomplish this might be to allow broadcasters to retain specific

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invoice information only at the station, but file with the FCC a form like the NAB's political broadcast advertising form PB-17 insofar as it provides information on total charges for political ad buys.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane E. Mago

Executive Vice President & General Counsel

National Association of Broadcasters

Jane & Mayor

cc: Chairman Julius Genachowski

Sherrese Smith William Lake Zachary Katz